

[3 May, 2007]

RAJYA SABHA

Highway to minimum 2-lane NH Standards under Ministry's budgetary support. However, there is no separate allocation for NH-228.

(c) It is too early to give time frame for completion of the improvement works.

Four-Laning of NH-47 and NH-17

3160. SHRI K. CHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to expand part of NH-7 and NH-17 in Kerala into four lane roads;

(b) if so, how many kms. are considered to be expanded into four lane roads;

(c) whether work has already been commenced;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the expected time by when the work would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIAPPA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) Entire length of 417 km of NH 47 and 421 km of NH 17 in Kerala is proposed for four laning under North-South Corridor, Port Connectivity and NHDP Phase III. Out of which 52 km of NH 47 is already four-laned and the work is in progress in another 52 km of NH 47 under North-South Corridor and Port Connectivity, In the remaining length of NH 47 and entire length of NH 17 preparation of Detailed Project Report (DRP) is in progress. The likely completion date for works under Port Connectivity, North-South Corridor and NHDP Phase III are December 2007, March 2009 and December, 2013 respectively.

Road Safety Boards

†3161. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sunder Committee constituted by the Infrastructure

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Committee under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister has given a suggestion to constitute Road Safety Boards at Centre and State level;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the views of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD

TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIAPPA): (a) and (b) On the recommendations of the Committee on Infrastructure this Ministry had set up a Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri S. Sunder, former Secretary of the then Ministry of Surface Transport to deliberate and make recommendations for setting up an effective and dedicated agency for Road Safety and Traffic Management. The Committee submitted its report on 20.2.2007. The main recommendations of the Committee *inter alia* include creation of National Road Safety & Traffic Management Board through an Act of the Parliament. The board would have advisory as well as regulatory functions. Under regulatory functions the board would set standards for the motor vehicles, and set standards for designing roads. In its advisory role, the board will assist Central Government in the matters relating to road safety and traffic management and would promote road safety research, road user behaviour strategies, lay guidelines for establishing medical care and rehabilitation etc. Enabling provision has been made for creation of similar bodies at State level. The committee has also recommended earmarking of at least 1% of the total proceeds of cess on diesel and petrol for road safety fund.

(c) Recommendations of the Committee have been circulated among the States/UTs and concerned Ministries/Departments for their comments before taking further necessary action.

Widening of Jalandhar-Pathankot NH

3162. SHRI VARINDER SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which work of widening of Jalandhar-Pathankot National Highway has so far been completed; and

(b) by when the entire stretch is likely to be widened as stipulated?